

placing a mixture comprising a curable material between the patterned substrate and a patterned surface of a mold, the patterned surface of the mold having a plurality of microstructures thereon;

stretching the mold to align a portion of the patterned surface of the mold with at least a portion of the patterned substrate;

curing the curable material to a rigid state adhered to the substrate; and removing the mold to leave hardened structures of the mixture aligned with the pattern of the substrate, the hardened structures comprising a substantial replica of the microstructures of the patterned surface of the mold and a land portion disposed between the patterned substrate and the substantial replica of the microstructures of the patterned surface of the mold.

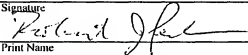
Remarks

By way of this preliminary amendment, original claims 1-19 are being cancelled and new claims 20-31 are being added. Applicants submit that the newly added claims are fully supported by the original specification. No new matter has been added.

Applicants believe claims 20-31 are in condition for allowance and solicit an early indication of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration Number	Telephone Number
45,002	651 737-0631
Date	
October 4, 2001	

Signature

Print Name
Robert J. Pechman

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427